



Capers



December - 2023

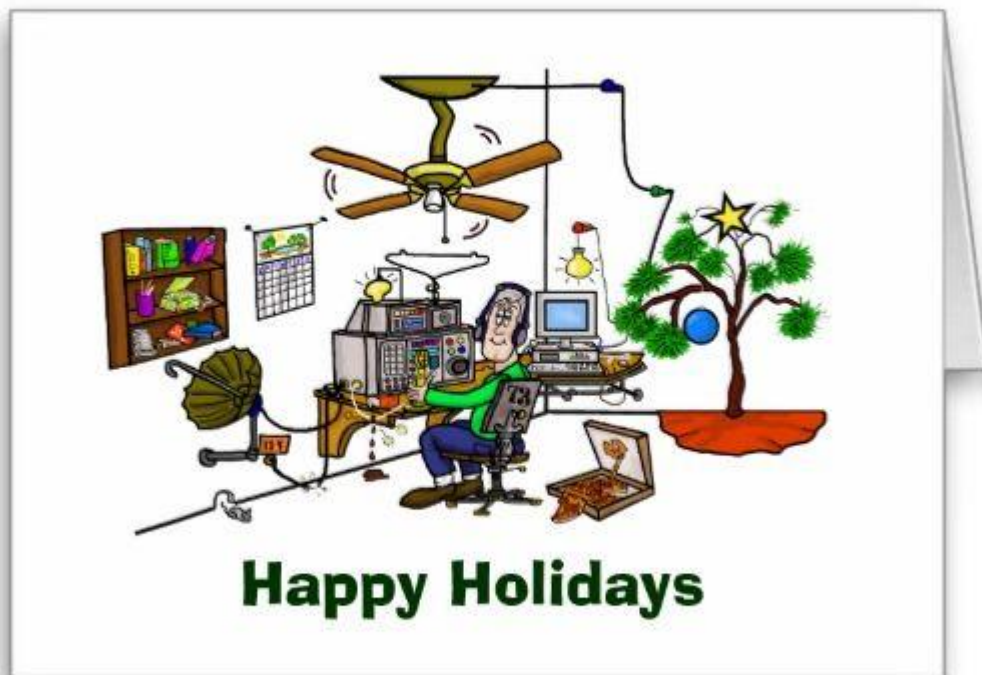
The Monthly Newsletter of The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 55 – Brookfield CT 06804 - 0055

Visit us on the Web at <http://www.cararadioclub.org>

Editor: Dan Fegley – W1QK

This in-person meeting will be conducted on Friday, December 8 at the Stony Hill Fire House on Stony Hill Rd. in Bethel (Rte. 6). Doors open at 7:00 pm, gavel at 7:30 pm.



Standard Monthly Agenda

December 8, 2023 Meeting

Meeting call to order:

- Welcome new members and guests!
- Members introduction

Secretary Report:

- Acceptance of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes as Published in CAPERS
- Correspondence if any

Treasurers Report:

- Acceptance as Published in CAPERS

PROGRAM:

Committee Reports

- Repeater Committee Reports: Steve, W1SMS
 - City Agreement Update
 - 2m/440 Current Status
 - 6m/220 status
- Website, Reflector, IT Committee: Stephanie Fuda
 - GoDaddy Website migration
 - IO Reflector Migration
- Operating Activities
 - Club Station on the Air 12/9/23 @ W1JMA
 - Jan 13
 - Feb 10
 - Mar 9
 - Other Proposed Activities
 - Ham Radio University in LI 1/6/24
 - Windsor Radio Museum 2/24/24
 - POTA Night
 - Digital Night
 - CW
 - FT8/FT4
 - RTTY

- Hamfest/Fund Raising Committee
- Membership Committee

Old Business

- Holiday Dinner: Vespucci Lodge Thursday 12/28 at 7pm Cost \$33
- Maker Space Update
- Winter FD Status January 27/28
 - Site Approved?
 - Antenna Party?
 - PIO needed for this event?

New Business

- 2024 CARA Fixed Cost Budget
 - PO Box
- 2024 Dues are due in December- New Form on Website and will be emailed via Groups IO and in CAPERS for December, Jan, and Feb
 - ARRL Membership

Announcements

- CARA Pasta Night Tuesday 12/19 at 6pm

Good of the Order

Adjournment and Next Meeting

- Friday 1/12/24 7:30 Stony Hill FD



President's Message

de W1NSK

The end of the year and Holidays are here! A great time to hit the "Pause Button" and take some time for yourself, perhaps get on the air and a different time than usual and work some different DX, mode or just a new band. One thing I have learned after being licensed for more than 50 years is there is still more to learn, things to try, modes to operate, or something you haven't thought of yet. Satellites? EME? The list goes on and on. So take a moment and try something new with some time during the holidays you owe yourself...

CARA's POTA Operations are on pause with the colder weather upon us. But plenty of POTA operations on the air to work.

If anyone has an idea that they would like to present, or suggestions of what and who to present to the Club at a meeting, get in touch and let's talk about it! Digital Modes, RTTY, CW, EME and Satellites are all of interest!

The informal Spaghetti dinner is again at the Vespucci Lodge on December 19 at 6 PM. Stop on by for some socializing and "radio talk". \$12 all included except beverage. It has also been decided to have our Holiday Party on Thursday December 28 at Vespucci Lodge. On that evening

the lodge hosts a "Big Eaters Night" for \$28 plus \$5 gratuity totaling \$33.00. Included is Salad, Pasta, choice of 2 entrees, with accompaniments, dessert, and coffee. Wine is also included. Bring friends, family, and Spouses! Please let John Ahle - W1JMA know in advance, as we need to provide a head count to the lodge. Also sign up on the sign-up email that comes around. See You There!!

Sunday Night's 10-meter net is always at 7:00 pm followed by our 2 Meter Net at 7:30 pm. Our weekly Elmer Net follows this at 8:00 PM. Ask that question you need an answer to or just listen to those that are asked. Anything is the subject no matter how basic. This is how we all learn and grow in this hobby.

This is your Club, and your active involvement is what makes it fun for all. Meetings are held the second Friday of the month. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the meeting starts at 7:30. Meetings are now held at the Stony Hill Fire House in Bethel on RT. 6. As a note it is December and Club Dues are now due for 2024. Please see our website, fill out as membership form as we want to keep our records up to date including ARRL membership. Dues can be Paid on the CARA Website.

Come out to a club meeting, see some old friends, and make new ones, get involved in a club committee, ACTIVELY participate, and get on the Air!

Most importantly enjoy the holiday season by spending time with family and friends and make some time for yourself to enjoy this great hobby!

Bud – W1NSK
CARA President



CARA Has been an ARRL Affiliated Club since 1946 – 77 Years in 2023

Vice- President's Message:

de W1JGM



I trust that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that family and friends are well. Where has the year gone? Christmas and New Year's will be here in a few short weeks. With that in mind, please join your fellow CARA club members for our annual holiday gathering on December 28 at the Amerigo Vespucci lodge. Please sign up at the link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA9A92CA2FCCF8-45721812-holiday> we need to give the lodge a head count ASAP. The cost is \$33 per person (includes gratuity). The food is guaranteed to be great and the company even better. This is open to all, so if you have friends in other clubs, please pass along this

invitation. Remember they must sign up using the link.

Since we won't have an official club POTA outing in December, the club will be holding several mentor sessions at the QTH of several members. The purpose is to get members on the air that may not have the capabilities and to mentor them in many aspects of our exciting hobby. Explore some of the capabilities you may not have or known about or are interested in. Many other aspects of the hobby exist, come learn about CW, FT4 & FT8, WindLink, PSK, SSTV, EME and many others. Sign up at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA9A92CA2FCCF8-46101744-cara>

Earlier in November, Harlan -W1QH, and I attended a communication drill sponsored by the Connecticut National Guard. This drill was to exercise their communications capabilities. This was a very interesting event. More details on page 14 in this issue of CAPERS.

Our monthly business meeting will be December 8, at the Stony Hill Fire Department, Rt 6 Stony Hill, Bethel. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the meeting starts 7:30 pm.

Remember this is your club, a club you should be proud of.

Have Safe and enjoyable Holiday

73,

John Morelli W1JGM
CARA Vice-President



CARA is an ARRL-Designated Special Service Club

November 10 Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

de CARA Secretary/Treasurer, John Ahle - W1JMA



November 10, 2023
Stony Hill Fire Department

The meeting was called to order at 7:33pm by President Bud Kozloff, W1NSK.

There were 10 members present and Jim Anderson, AJ1MJ, our guest speaker.

Jim Anderson, AJ1MJ, gave a presentation on Baluns and their practical use in antennas.

The October monthly meeting minutes as published in CAPERS were accepted.

The Treasury report for the month of October as presented by treasurer John W1JMA was accepted.

**CARA Treasury Report
For Month Ending October 31, 2023**

Income: Unrealized Gain I bond \$35
Income: Sale of Equipment \$100

Total Income: \$135

Expense: FD Supplies \$84.31
Expense: Donations to SHFD and BPF \$200

Total Expense: \$284.31

Net Loss for Month
\$149.31

Cash: Checking \$9,460.46
Cash: Petty \$50
Investment: IBond \$4,815

Unrestricted CASH Balance: \$14,325.46

Bud asked that a budget for 2024 be prepared for review next month.

**CARA Treasury Report
For Month Ending November 30, 2023**

Income: Full Member Dues 2024 \$105

Total Income: \$105

Expense: Paypal Fees \$2.10

Total Expense: \$2.10

Net Income for Month \$102.90

Cash: Checking \$9,563.63
Cash: Petty \$50
Investment: IBond \$4,815

Unrestricted CASH Balance: \$14,428.36

Remaining Spending Authorizations:

Repeater Repairs \$84
FD Ant and supplies \$80
Hamfest Supplies and Admin \$69

Total to be spent: \$233

Committee Reports:

Repeater: Steve, W1SMS updated those present on the status of the repeater location discussions with the City of Danbury; nothing concrete at this time, city planning on moving their equipment off site within a year. The 2m and 440 repeaters remain stable. Steve classified the status of the 220 and 6m repeaters as a science experiment. The 220 equipment will be set up and tested at his qth. The 6m equipment is on the "hill" and needs to be retrieved since it is not functioning. Steve also mentioned his recent visit to a potential repeater site in Danbury. This site could allow repeaters and antennas on its roof. This location would give good coverage to the east given its location on the west side of Danbury. More to follow as this opportunity develops.

Website/Reflector Committee: Stephanie proposed we move our website to the "Go Daddy" hosting and maintenance option at a cost of approximately \$20 per month. After discussion a motion was made to move our website to GoDaddy. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The discussions continued about the reflector. A motion was made and seconded to move our reflector to IO Groups. The motion was approved unanimously. Stephanie and John, W1JMA will begin the migration process. It was decided to continue to pay the Host Gator fee of \$150 for another year till the migration process is completed.

Operating Activities: The following activities were discussed:

1. Winter FD January 27/28. John, W1JGM will seek approval from Ball Pond FD for use of the facility. Dave, WA1JGA reminded members that they should purchase the recommended KOSS headset. W1JMA will again circulate that information.
2. The next POTA is Saturday 11/18/23 at Putnam Park 10-2

3. Our first Club Station on the Air is scheduled for Saturday 12/9 12:30 to 3pm at the W1JMA Station. Sign up Guinness will be sent to solicit participants.
4. Other activities discussed on the horizon:
 - a. Ham Radio University in Long Island in January
 - b. Field trip to the radio museum in Windsor in February
 - c. Other programs of interest in the spring

Membership Committee: There were no new members in October.

Hamfest/Fundraising: John, W1JGM, discussed the amount of work needed to successfully run a hamfest. While this year's event made approximately \$2300, the effort was great in both the planning and day of event. Discussions were had on other fundraising methods that might be employed. It was noted that the attendance was only 170 this year compared to 300+ in years prior to COVID.

Old Business:

Dan – W1QK, reported that CARA's 40m Half-Square has been repaired and ready for use in WFD.

Bud reminded the group that the sign up for the Holiday Party at the Vespucci club has been circulated. The dinner is on Thursday 12/28 at 7:00 pm. The cost is \$33 per person.

Steve updated the group on the status of the "maker space" opportunity. There is definite interest from the Maker Space administration to have a ham radio presence once the facility gets zoning approval. More to follow as this develops.

New Business:

Bud suggested that a public information officer be appointed to promote ham radio in the various media outlets. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Bud.

New CARA badges will be made available in 2024 after the dues collection period has been completed.

It was suggested that we move the next planning meeting held on Teams to the Monday 11/27 after Thanksgiving weekend at 7:30. The invite will be sent out accordingly.

Good of the Order:

It was mentioned that Harlan Ford, W1QH, has accepted the ARES position of Area 5 DEC.

The meeting closed at 9:43. Our next business meeting is Friday 12/8/23 at 7:30.

CARA Planning Meeting November 27, 2023

The CARA Planning Meeting was called to order by Bud, W1NSK at 7:45pm. There were 8 members present. Many topics were discussed, especially vetting speakers that are appropriate to our membership. There was also a discussion on what might be a better night for our meetings. After discussion on the various agenda items, the following agenda is put forward for our December meeting.

December 8, 2023

Draft Meeting Agenda

Meeting called to Order

- Welcome new members and guests!
- Members introduction

Secretary Report:

- Acceptance of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes as Published in CAPERS
- Correspondence if any

Treasurers Report:

- Acceptance as Published in CAPERS

PROGRAM:

Committee Reports

- Repeater Committee Reports:
Steve, W1SMS
 - City Agreement Update
 - 2m/440 Current Status
 - 6m/220 status
- Website, Reflector, IT Committee:
Stephanie Fuda
 - GoDaddy Website migration
 - IO Reflector Migration
- Operating Activities
 - Club Station on the Air
12/9/23 @ W1JMA
 - Jan 13
 - Feb 10
 - Mar 9
 - Other Proposed Activities
 - Ham Radio
University in LI
1/6/24
 - Windsor Radio
Museum 2/24/24
 - POTA Night
 - Digital Night
 - CW
 - FT8/FT4
 - RTTY
- Hamfest/Fund Raising Committee
- Membership Committee

Old Business

- Holiday Dinner: Vespucci Lodge Thursday 12/28 at 7pm Cost \$33
- Maker Space Update
- Winter FD Status January 27/28
 - Ball Pond Has Been Approved
 - Number of Stations
 - Antenna Party?
 - Is a PIO needed for this event?

New Business

- 2024 CARA Fixed Cost Budget
- 2024 Dues are due in December- New Form on Website and will be emailed via Groups IO and in CAPERS for December, Jan, and Feb
 - ARRL Membership
- Technical Session with CARA/NARA Members hosted by Jim Anderson
- Should CARA renew our Special Service Club Designation?
- CARA Elmer/Tech Session hosted by W1SMS

Announcements

- CARA Pasta Night Tuesday 12/19 at 6pm

Good of the Order

Adjournment and Next Meeting

- Friday 1/12/24 7:30 Stony Hill FD

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

CARA 2024 Budget

The treasurer was asked to prepare a budget for the 2024 calendar year. The proposed budget assumes a membership of 50 full members at the current dues rate of \$35. See page 28 for the budget document.

November meeting presentation by Jim Anderson - AJ1MJ



Photos: WA1JGA

Jim related how the analysis of a ferrite toroid core choke balun is confirmed with an actual measurement of attenuation. He also explained how the "L" network and impedance transformer are used to interface to an end-fed half wave vertical for 20 meters with analysis for 50 Ohms without residual reactance.





A brief Q&A session was held during Jim's presentation.

Editor: Thank you Jim, for sharing your technical knowledge and expertise on this subject.

CARA TEAMS mentoring sessions continue

On Jan 6, 2023, at 8:24 PM, John Morelli via CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org> wrote:

Time is being set at 8 PM Sunday evening to assist anyone interested in becoming licensed or upgrading their license. We are asking anyone interested in assisting mentoring (coaching) new Hams get their license or upgrade.

Veteran CARA members are welcomed to join to help our new Hams.

This is a time to ask questions you may have about operating, station setup, antennas, or anything else. Join Us!

W1JGM – John.

Editor:

TEAMS meeting credentials for CARA Mentoring sessions will be posted to the new CARA Groups i.o. email server.

CARA membership benefits include use of the CARA Reflector and an annual subscription to the CARA Capers Monthly newsletter.



Weekly CARA Sunday club NETS:

Informal 10M Net: 28.490 MHz. USB 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Net Control: Vinny – N2OHH

The CARA Net: W1QI 2M FM Repeater – 7:30 pm.

Net Controls: David -KB1ZAC, Charlie-KC1IBR, or John – KD2VUP. Contact David – KB1ZAC if you would like to be CARA Net Control.



Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

Dec. 8: CARA Monthly Business Meeting. In-person at Stony Hill Fire House, Rte. 6, Bethel. 7:30 pm

Dec. 9: CARA Club Station Days – Session #1: 1:00 – 3:00 pm, W1JMA -Ridgefield

Dec. 8-10: ARRL 10M Contest

Dec. 11: ARES Region 5 meeting via TEAMS

Dec. 14: CARA Holiday Party – Italian American Club, Danbury 7:00 pm **Reservation deadline: RSVP via Sign-Up Genius:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA9A92CA2FCCF8-45721812-holiday>

Dec. 16: OK/OM DX contest

Dec. 19: CARA Monthly Pasta Night Dinner – Italian American club in Danbury 6:00 pm

Dec. 22: CARA Planning Meeting via TEAMS

Dec. 28: CARA Holiday Party – Italian American Club in Danbury, **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY DEC. 14**

Dec. 26: CT ARES Region 5 Monthly TEAMS meeting

Dec. 13, 20, 27: CWops CWT 1300Z & 1900Z Wednesday, and 0300Z (Thursday)

January 5 : January 2024 Capers input deadline to w1qk@snet.net



*CARA 2023 Holiday Party:
Thursday, Dec. 28, 7:00 pm*

Vespucci Italian American Club, Danbury

The dinner is \$28 plus a \$5 tip, total cost \$33 per person.

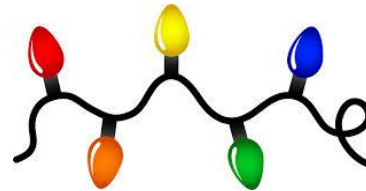
Reservations are required. We must give a count to the facility by December 14.

Please don't delay in signing up. Salad, bread, pasta, chicken, a second entree, vegetables, dessert, coffee, wine, and beer. Other drinks are a cash bar.

The link below has the sign-up details. This party is open to CARA members, their families, and friends.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4A9A92CA2FCCF8-45721812-holiday>

73, John- W1JMA and John- W1JGM



CARA Club Station Days

A new Operating Program for the Winter Months

At the October meeting, a new program was approved to organize monthly CARA Club Station Days. Since we do not have a formal club station at this time, it would be nice to have 3 or 4 members offer to host up to 3 members of the club at their home stations during the months of December through March, when we are not doing club POTA outings.

At this point in the planning process, we are looking for Host Stations. As of today, we have 2 host stations, Steve, W1SMS and myself have offered to be host stations. We are looking for another 1 or 2 members willing to host.



W1JMA's station with new roof-mounted 3-element multi-band yagi antenna



Photos: W1JMA

Please contact John Ahle -W1JMA at w1jma@w1qi.org if you are willing to host.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM: -----

Purpose: Experienced club members host a two-hour block of time for other club members to tour and operate from their shack using the W1QI

CARA Club call sign. During that time, they could:

- hunt parks
- special event stations
- chase dx
- operate SSB, CW or FT8/4 if available

Procedure:

- Secure 3-4 experienced hams willing to host and welcome no more than 3 members to their shack to operate.
 - The host operator will be the control operator to the extent of their license privileges.
- Will use sign up genius to manage the monthly process
- Use HAMRS as the logging program.
 - ADI output will be required for club records
- Will ask each station to link by TEAMS Video during the operating sessions

Proposed Dates:

- Saturday December 9 1-3
 - W1JMA Ridgefield
 -
- Saturday January 13 1-3
 - W1JMA Ridgefield
 - W1SMS Danbury
 -
- Saturday February 10 1-3
 - W1JMA Ridgefield
 - W1SMS Danbury
 -
- Saturday March 9 1-3
 - W1JMA Ridgefield
 - W1SMS Danbury



Connecticut Phone Net – CPN

This net starts at 6:00 pm EDT Monday through Saturday on 3.972 – 3.973 MHz. Sunday: 10:00 a.m. EDT 3.965 MHz.

Use this link to access the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

Editor:

CARA has contributed financial support to WA7BNM for his Contest Calendar and 3830 Contest Scores websites for two years.



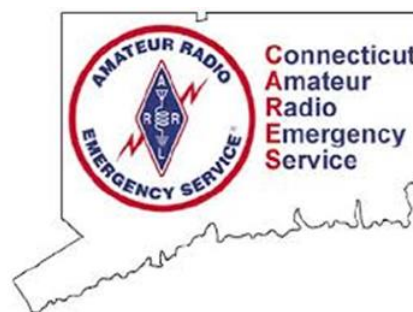
2023 Ham Exam Schedule



Upcoming 2023 Amateur radio exams:

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

CT ARES News:



W1QH appointed as new ARES Region 5 CT DEC

Harlan Ford – W1QH, has recently been appointed by CT Section Manager, Bud Kozloff – W1NSK, to the position of CT ARES Region 5 District Emergency Coordinator – DEC.

Harlan has served as CT ARES Region 5 ADEC, Assistant District Coordinator, for many years and



brings his experience and knowledge of DEC responsibilities to his new appointment.

Charles Setaro – KC1IBR, has been appointed by Harlan Ford – W1QH, as new CT ARES Emergency Coordinator for the City of Danbury. He has been working at KX1EOC, the Danbury EOC station to confirm station equipment operation and preparation for drills and any activation. Charlie has been assisted by Dan AC1 a new ham who resides in Danbury during the ARES nets and checking into the Sunday CARA net from KX1EOC, located at the Danbury City Hall.

Steven McCarthy – KC1EEQ, has been appointed by Harlan Ford – W1QH as new CT ARES Emergency Coordinator for the Town of New Milford.

CT National Guard Communications Drill - November 16

Submitted by John Morelli – W1JGM and Harlan Ford – W1QH. Photos: W1JGM

Edited by Dan Fegley -W1QK

On November 16, members of the Connecticut National Guard met in New Fairfield for the purpose of testing their Interactive Communications Systems. The system is designed to provide interoperability between the municipal Emergency Management Directors (EMD), first responders, the Connecticut State Division of Homeland Security Agency, and the Connecticut National Guard Civil Support.

The purpose was to coordinate operations – plus provide real-time high-speed satellite Internet service and First Net cellular coverage.



The National Guard determined that several towns on Connecticut’s western border with New York presented challenging communication issues with other parts of the state.

A pre-planning meeting was conducted a week prior to the drill at the New Fairfield Emergency Operations Center – EOC, to discuss the event and choose two sites to conduct the drill. Several sites were considered. The Macedonia Brook State Park in Kent, and the Great Hollow Nature Preserve in New Fairfield were selected for the drill.

The intent was to communicate with each other along with CT National Guard headquarters in Hartford.



Those participating in the drill included the New Fairfield Emergency Operations Director (EMD), the New Fairfield town Fire Marshall, and John Morelli – W1JGM, who represented the New Fairfield Fire Department. Harlan Ford – W1QH, newly appointed CT ARES Region 5 District Emergency Coordinator, was an invited guest observer from ARES and CARA.

Approximately 15 members of the National Guard participated in the exercise.



Several Connecticut National Guard vehicles arrived at the New Fairfield site around 9:00 am to set up VHF, UHF, and satellite communications. The equipment was fully self-contained, and included a generator, backup batteries, and a 50-foot telescopic mast to support UHF and VHF antennas.

A portable satellite dish with its associated radio equipment was deployed.



After becoming familiar with the UHF and VHF equipment, the National Guard operators in New Fairfield established reliable contact with other operators at the Kent site and Hartford Headquarters. Several attempts to make satellite contact were unsuccessful. It wasn't apparent if the difficulty was equipment or site related, because access with the satellite couldn't be established.





This National Guard training exercise demonstrated why it's important to continuously train with the equipment used - whether that equipment is commercial, military, or amateur. It's critically important to know the characteristics, performance capabilities and limitations of the systems that are used.

A follow-up drill will be scheduled in the spring.

Harlan and John explained about amateur radio's ARRL Field Day, POTA, and other special event operations to the Guard's participants. They were interested to learn what hams do during portable field operations. Harlan and John also advised them about CARA.

Editor:

Submit CT ARES news to CARA Capers to be included here in next month's issue.

CT ARES Winlink Wednesday

Put your 2M FM Winlink Packet station on the air to participate in the monthly ARES Winlink Wednesday message practice. Try to use the WISP nodes in our area:

WISP-6 LITCCT Litchfield
145.65 FN31JR

WISP-7 NHAVCT Oxford 145.63
FN31JK

WISP-8 FAIRCT Bridgeport
145.69 FN31JE

Next CT ARES Winlink Wednesday:

Wednesday, January 3, 2024



CT ARES Sunday statewide nets:

KB1AEV/NA1RA (NARA) linked repeaters:
8:00 pm

DMR repeaters: 8:30 pm

CT ARES Region 5 conducts two monthly meetings. The Region 5 South TEAMS meeting is held on the second Monday of the month. The CT ARES Region 5 North & South monthly meeting is held on the last Monday of the month – currently via TEAMS but may be conducted in-person in 2024.

Send an email inquiry to Harlan Ford – W1QH, Region 5 DEC if you would like to learn more about CT ARES or be added to the distribution for CT ARES announcements and links to CT ARES meetings via TEAMS.

hford01@snet.net

Visit this website to learn more about CT ARES, the weekly 2M FM nets, and Winlink Wednesday:

<http://www.ctares.org/>

"When Everything Else Fails. Amateur Radio often is our last line of defense...When you need amateur radio, you really need them."

The Hon. W. Craig Fugate
Former Administrator, US Department of Homeland Security, FEMA



The Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which

Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

--The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.

Capers: Swap and Shop

CARA Swap & Shop Policies:

CARA assumes no responsibility for transactions made or inaccuracies in ads. You are responsible for checking your ad and notifying us of any corrections. Swap and Shop listings are open to licensed CARA hams, based on space available. Please submit your items to w1qk@snet.net for placement in the CARA Capers.





Visit us on the Web at
<http://www.cararadioclub.org>

Executive Board:

President – Bud Kozloff, W1NSK
w1nsk@w1qi.org
Vice President – John Morelli, W1JGM
w1jgm@w1qi.org
Secretary – Treasurer
John Ahle – W1JMA, w1jma@w1qi.org

Directors:

David Coelho, WA1JGA
davidcoelho52@gmail.com
Vincent Tompkins – N2OHH
n2ohh@w1qi.org
Rostyslaw Slabicky – N2ROS
w2ros@w1qi.org

CARA is an IRS 501(C)3 Organization.

*Capers is the monthly newsletter of the
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
Editor: Dan Fegley, W1QK
w1qk@snet.net*



A brief word from our editor...

CARA CAPERS is the monthly publication of the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (CARA) and is intended to present news, issues, and opinions of interest to CARA members and the Amateur Radio Community.

We encourage contributions of articles, letters to the editor, etc. and welcome newsletter exchanges with other clubs from around the country and around the world. Permission is granted to reprint

material contained herein if proper credit is given to this newsletter and the author.

Ideas for, and contributions to the CAPERS should be submitted to: w1qk@snet.net.

Submissions must be received no later than the date indicated in the preceding month of issue, *unless otherwise specified*.

Submissions should be in MS Word format or ASCII text. Photos should be in .jpg format.

The input deadline is announced in the previous issue and again at the monthly planning meeting.

Material received after the deadline will be used in the next month's CAPERS if it's still current and /or newsworthy.

The CAPERS is published by CARA Capers Editor. All material contained herein is considered the opinion of the author and not necessarily that of CARA.

Announcements of events are for informational purposes and do not necessarily constitute an endorsement by CARA. No responsibility for accuracy is assumed by the CARA Capers editor or newsletter staff.

This summary is reprinted as a courtesy of: The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association's Award-Winning monthly newsletter: "Voice Coil" <http://www.mvara.org/News/Current.pdf>



About ARRL:

Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim, ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US. Today, with more than 161,000 members, ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the world. ARRL's mission is based on five pillars: Public Service, Advocacy, Education, Technology, and Membership.

ARRL -- Your One-Stop Resource for Amateur Radio News and Information

Join or Renew Today! Eligible US-based members can elect to receive QST or On the Air magazine in print when they join ARRL or when they renew their membership. All members can access digital editions of all four ARRL magazines: QST, On the Air, QEX, and NCJ.

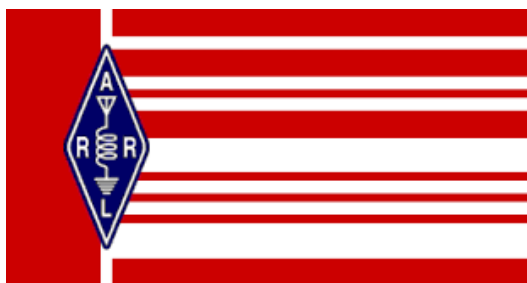
- Listen to ARRL Audio News, available very Friday.

Subscribe to...

- NCJ -- National Contest Journal. Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.
- QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters. Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members...

- Subscribe to the ARES Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (biweekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!
- Find ARRL on Facebook! Follow us on Twitter and Instagram!



ARRL CT Section News

This space reserved in CARA Capers for monthly updates from our ARRL CT Section Leadership.

Can I use ARRL Logos?

Log in to your ARRL member or guest online account to view and download logos. Need help logging in? Visit our **Member**

Support page. **View/Download ARRL logos**

ARRL Logos Use

- ARRL members and Affiliated clubs may use the ARRL diamond logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, club signs, business cards and websites.
- ARRL Life Members may use the Life Member logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, business cards and websites.
- Special Service Clubs may use the Special Service Club logo on their stationery, club signs and websites.
- ARES members may use the ARES logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, business cards and web pages.
- National Traffic System members may use the NTS logo on their own personal QSL cards, stationery, business cards and web pages.
- ARRL logos and images **MAY NOT** be used on any items intended for sale (shirts, mugs, calendars, etc), or as part of advertising or other commercial promotion including websites, eBay listings, etc. If you are interested in purchasing a license to use ARRL logos or imagery in this fashion, contact Creative Services by **email**.
- ARRL logos and images **MAY NOT** be modified in any way or incorporated within any other logo design.

Please **contact ARRL** to request permission and for any other use of ARRL logos.

Source: <https://www.arrl.org/copyright>



The Yankee Clipper Contest Club is a special purpose amateur radio club devoted to the pursuit of operating and technical excellence.

There are in excess of 400 contesters who are members of the club throughout New England, New York, and Canada.

YCCC has members who are some of the most proficient contest operators in the world.

More information about the YCCC at:
<http://www.yccc.org/>

File /Technical-Presentations/NC0B-Receiver-Characterization.pdf uploaded #file-notice

From: noreply@groups.io

Date: Fri, 10 Nov 2023 14:51:25 EST

The following files and folders have been uploaded to the Files area of the yccc@groups.io group.

Technical-Presentations/NC0B-Receiver-Characterization.pdf

By: Ken - WO1N <wo1n@arrl.net>

Description:
Rob Sherwood describes test methods and results for modern day amateur radio transceivers.

FW: WRTC Sponsorship / Donations
From: Randy Thompson K5ZD
Date: Sat, 18 Nov 2023 00:22:59 EST

Appeal for WRTC-2026 support.

The UK organizers have made a deal with the WRTC Italy organizers to acquire much of the essential station infrastructure. This saves a lot of procurement and logistics effort. Mark doesn't call it out below, but they need to come up with funds to complete the transaction. I.e., they need to pay WRTC Italy by end of this year.

Help them out if you feel inclined.

Randy K5ZD

From: wrtc2026-discuss@groups.io
<wrtc2026-discuss@groups.io> On Behalf Of
Lee Volante G0MTN

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 5:42 PM

To: wrtc2026-discuss@groups.io

Subject: [wrtc2026-discuss] WRTC
Sponsorship / Donations

Hi everyone,

Thank you for your continued interest in WRTC 2026. This note is to complement recent updates made on our website at <https://www.wrtc2026.org/sponsors/> and several posts made on our social media channels. We appreciate that some of you may be relying on this email reflector as your primary source of information for WRTC updates. For others that are following us in other ways online too please forgive any repeated messaging.

Our overall budget for 2026 is close to £600,000, which will be required to fund our HQ venue, the station hardware and all the other associated costs running up to and during the week of the competition in July 2026. We are hence extremely grateful to those in our growing list of club, business and individual sponsors already supporting WRTC 2026.

Normally, a period of 4 years would separate WRTCs. Due to WRTC 2022 in Italy being

unavoidably delayed 12 months due to the pandemic, we have a reduced amount of time to prepare. We also reached a deal with the Italian organising team to acquire and re-use a large quantity of their hardware for the UK event. This has pulled forward some financial commitments earlier than they would have been otherwise, so we are reaching out to the community now for your support.

If any member of this email list, whether you are a potential WRTC entrant, referee, visitor, volunteer or just an interested contender, are in a position to further support the project, we would be delighted to hear from you. We recognise all contributions, no matter their value, on our website.

Contributions can be made on the website <https://www.wrtc2026.org> There is a Donate button on the home page.

Thank you very much in advance.
73,
Lee G0MTN
WRTC 2026 Organising Committee



The CW Operators' Club

cwops.org

The CW Operators' Club, commonly known as CWops, is an international organization, in membership and management, for amateur radio operators who enjoy communicating using Morse Code. Its mission is to foster the use of CW, whether for contesting, DX'ing, traffic handling, or engaging in conversations.

Visit the CWops website to learn more about CW Academy and how you can sign up for the popular & free on-line CW training classes.

<https://cwops.org/cw-academy/cw-academy-options/>

To become a member of CWops:
<https://cwops.org/membership/>

Use this link to learn more about the **K1USN Radio Club's SST** slow speed CW contests:
<http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>



N1MM Logger Plus is the world's most popular free ham radio contest logging program. For CW, phone and digital modes, its combination of contest-optimized features is unmatched.



<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/n1mm-features/>

Multiplier Bell Project?

R. David Eagle
Nov 16 #80967

A while back I read an article about someone that created a multiplier bell using a simple ESP32 device that would inspect that packets broadcasted by the program and ring a bell if you hit a multiplier. Well, my mind has failed me again and I cannot find it anywhere. Does anyone have any info on this project that they can point me in the right direction???

Thanks again!
Dave - KB8NNU

N1RM - Rick Miller Nov 17 #80980
I saw one built by N3QE a couple of months ago. Is that the one you are thinking of?

Tim Shoppa
Nov 17 #80983
Well I think K8UT deserves the credit for the initial idea! It's a great tutorial for how to build a very simple device triggered by UDP packets from the logger.

It's an ESP8266 hooked to a transistor to drive a solenoid that rings the bell.

The source code is at
http://n3qe.org/Mult_bell_raw.ino

A photo is at http://n3qe.org/Mult_bell.jpg

A schematic is at http://n3qe.org/Mult_bell.pdf

Broadly I think this sort of discussion probably belongs on a pan-logger "UDP packets from loggers drive real-world devices" list, not the N1MM+ list, but I don't know of any. Please clue me in if anyone knows of them!

Tim N3QE

Jim Stahl K8MR Nov 17 #80985
Reading the subject line, I was envisioning something else - a way to drive a device after a new multiplier (or even a new QSO) was worked, that would give some sort of tangible reward to the operator.

In particular, I was thinking of a device that would dispense a few (N1) M&Ms.

73 - Jim K8MR

Nov 18 #81012
M1DST did one for our local club when running a multi contest from separate tents. Might be something on his web site. Tony, G4LDL
If You See This Pop Up Unexpectedly!

N8KDC Nov 28 #81255
I setup a new user (non-microsoft account) then downloaded the full install file installed without starting the program then installed the latest update. And I get that pop up window which I then proceed to cancel as directed. I do have OneDrive but on the new user account (admin) it shows OneDrive as not being signed on to.

I have searched prior posts but seem to still have issues resolving the problem.
Thanks.

John Bednar
Nov 28 #81262
Ken,
The user directory that you selected is one that OneDrive will back up to the cloud. We are simply trying to prevent you from suffering with a garbled database resulting from One Drive.
The solution is to create a user directory outside of Documents and enter that path at the full installer second path prompt. Example C:\ham\N1MM
Logger+
John, K3CT

Engineering ToolBox - SketchUp Extension - Online 3D modeling!

https://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/search-engineering-toolbox-d_2075.html

Add standard and customized parametric components - like flange beams, lumbers, piping, stairs and more - to your Sketchup model with the Engineering ToolBox - SketchUp Extension - enabled for use with older versions of the amazing SketchUp Make and the newer "up to date" SketchUp Pro . Add the Engineering ToolBox extension to your SketchUp Make/Pro from the Extension Warehouse !



NEW!



KH1 Shown with the KHPD1 Keyer Paddle and Telescoping Whip (Included in the Edgewood Package or sold separately)
Note that the Telescoping Whip is supplied with the KHATU1 option.

- Scan/mini-pan feature
- Real-Time Clock
- Full remote control
- Speaker
- RIT, XIT, & VFO lock
- Light gray case stays cool even in bright sunlight

In the Box:

- KH1-F, Hand-Held, 5-Band Transceiver
- E980262 Power Cable
- KXUSB USB Cable
- E740377 KH1 Owner's Manual

OVERVIEW

We've just tackled some of the hardest problems with HF field deployment: How to get you on the air in seconds, with an internal ATU that tunes both a built-in, multi-band whip and BNC-connected random wires.

Providing field logging that's truly convenient. Creating the optimal user interface for handheld CW operation – because there isn't always somewhere to sit.

And making an HF rig that's light enough to use HT-style without wrist fatigue.

The result of this effort is the KH1: an ultralight radio you'll never leave at home.

It's ideal for SOTA, hiking, vacation and business travel, or just that carefree hour after the chores are done.

With the Edgewood Package (shown installed below), your KH1 becomes a fully integrated station, with fold-out log tray and pen, plug-in keyer paddle, battery, charger, ATU, and whip antenna.

It all fits in our versatile ES20 carrying case, with room to spare.

KH1 Features:

- 40-15 m ham bands; 6-22 MHz SWL
- CW mode; 5 watts, all bands
- ATU includes whip & high-Q inductor for 20/17/15 m
- 2.5 AH Li-Ion battery & internal charger
- CW decode & 32K TX log

<https://elecraft.com/products/kh1-transceiver>

*Editor:
This description and specifications is provided as information to CARA members. There is no financial connection between CARA, CARA Capers, nor Elecraft.*



Member and Station News:

Your news or story could be included here in the next issue of CARA Capers. Contact W1QK, Capers editor.

Just snap pix of your station, antennas, mobile installation, etc. and send it to w1qk@snet.net Your Capers editor welcomes and encourages member input.

United States Air Force Military Auxiliary Radio System 75 Years

This certifies that

W1QK

participated in the on-air amateur radio
celebration of 75 years of
Air Force Military Auxiliary Radio Service
supporting United States Armed Forces.
NOVEMBER 5 - 11, 2023

W1A
1st COMM WING

K4AF
Pentagon

KE6UEU
Travis AFB

W1K
10th COMM WING

W1B
2nd COMM WING

W1C
3rd COMM WING

W1D
4th COMM WING

W1E
5th COMM WING

W1F
6th COMM WING

W1G
7th COMM WING

W1H
8th COMM WING

W1J
9th COMM WING

USAF MARS 75 Years Special Event participation certificate

To:w1qk@snet.net

Sat, Nov 18 at 2:20 PM

Dear W1QK,

The USAF MARS 75 Years Special Event Certificate is available for download. Please see below for instructions.

You received this email because you worked us during the USAF MARS 75 Years Special Event.

We manually looked up your email on QRZ. If you received this email in error, we apologize.

The USAF MARS 75 Years Special Event Certificate is here: <http://cert.elemcoshopfloor.com/>

Enter the call sign you used to contact us.

There is a drop-down box for events, select USAF MARS 75 Years, Press Search.

A list will come up showing your contacts if you are in the log. Click Get Certificate to download your certificate. You can enter a comment if you wish.

Due to the overwhelming success Air Force MARS is Happy to Announce that this will become a yearly Special Event.

November 5th through the 11th

When the time to the event gets closer, we will announce more details on QRZ and our outward facing web presence:

<https://community.apan.org/wg/air-force-military-auxiliary-radio-system-afmars>

This is an Automated email, please do not respond.

If there are issues with the certificate please email certificate_issue@gsbarc.org with details of the concern. This is the only email that will address issues with the certificate.

Thanks for participating.

73

Quicksilver Radio

Coax Loss Chart dB per 100 Feet

	RG-316 RG-174	USA-58 RG-58	USA-8X RG-8X	USA-240 LMR-240	USA-213 RG-213	9913	USA-400 LMR-400	USA-Flex Bury-Flex
3.5 MHz	1.5	.8	.65	.45	.3	.23	.2	.26
7 MHz	2.1	1.2	.85	.64	.5	.32	.3	.37
14 MHz	3.0	1.7	1.21	.91	.7	.46	.5	.53
28 MHz	4.2	2.4	1.74	1.29	1.00	.65	.7	.75
50 MHz	5.6	3.2	2.36	1.73	1.40	.88	.9	1.00
144 MHz	9.6	5.5	4.20	2.95	2.40	1.54	1.44	1.73
440 MHz	17	9.9	7.92	5.23	4.40	2.818	2.7	3.08
2400 Hz	41.4	24.8	22.80	12.65	12	7.48	6.6	7.63

www.qsradio.com

Editor: Chart courtesy of Quicksilver Radio

Local Repeater Reference – Compiled and submitted by W1JMA

Town	State	Freq	PL	Call	Other
Danbury	CT	147.300	100	W1QI	FM
Danbury	CT	147.120	100	W1HDN	FM
Carmel	NY	145.130	136.5	K2PUT	FM
Bethel	CT	147.030	100	KA1KD	FM
New Canaan	CT	146.775	100	N1LLL	FM
New Milford	CT	146.730	151.4	NA1RA	FM
Norwalk	CT	146.475	100	W1NLK	FM
Danbury	CT	447.775	151.4	W1QI	FM
Danbury	CT	443.650	114.8	W1HDN	FM

Source:
Repeaterbook.com

Submitted by W1QK:

Winlink 2M CT Packet Gateways

CALL	COUNTY	LOC./FREQUENCY	GRID	REGION	EMG.POWER
W1SP-1	TOLLCT	Tolland 145.65	FN31UV	3	Y
W1SP-2	WINDCT	Brooklyn 145.61	FN41AT	4	Y
W1SP-3	NLONCT	Ledyard 145.63	FN31XK	4	Y
W1SP-4	HARTCT	Avon 145.69	FN31OT	3	Y
W1SP-5	MIDDCT	Haddam 145.69	FN31RK	2	Y
W1SP-6	LITCCT	Litchfield 145.65	FN31JR	5	Y
W1SP-7	NHAVCT	Oxford 145.63	FN31JK	5	Y
W1SP-8	FAIRCT	Bridgeport 145.69	FN31JE	1	Y

Source: <https://ctares.org/data-comms-winlink-packet/>

Editor: Submit your story or pix to include here in the next CARA Capers





CY2024 Membership Form (not valid after 12/31/24)

Name and Call:

--	--

Email and Cell Phone Number:

--	--

Street Address:

--

City, State and ZIP:

--	--	--

License Class(E,A,G,T), ARRL Member(Y/N)? VE(Y/N)?

--	--	--

Please mail check payable to CARA, Mail to 120 Fire Hill Road, Ridgefield, CT 06877

PayPal: paypal.me/CARADUES

Please scan form to: Treasurer@cararadioclub.org

Full Membership: licensed Hams over 16 years of age:	\$35
Additional Family Member:	\$15
Associate Membership: Licensed Ham under 16 years or non-ham:	\$20

CARA is a 501c3 entity, dues are NOT considered a donation.

CARA 2024 Budget

The treasurer was asked to prepare a budget for the 2024 calendar year. The proposed budget assumes a membership of 50 full members at the current dues rate of \$35.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i># of Members Needed</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Liability Insurance	\$ 225	March	6.43	Must Have
EQ Insurance	\$ 300	March	8.57	Is this worth it??
PO Box 55	\$ 180	February	5.14	Eliminate this cost
DN CARARADIOCLUB.org	\$ 20	March	0.57	This domain supports Treasury Function
DN W1QI.org	\$ 20	August	0.57	We use this domain for Teams
SW CARARADIOCLUB.org	\$ 145	December	4.14	Eliminate this cost once GoDaddy Live
Website GoDaddy (NEW SPEND)	\$ 250	Monthly	7.14	
Meeting Venue Donation	\$ 200	November	5.71	Stony Hill FD/Ball Pond
Paypal fee, office supplies, postage	\$ 100	Ongoing	2.86	
Repeater Repairs Budget	\$ 300	Ongoing	8.57	Does not include new/replacement items
Total Costs	\$ 1,740			
Full membership dues \$35				
# of members needed to cover fixed costs	<u>50</u>		<u>50</u>	